Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture*): (*a*) Yes, 14 times.

(*b*) No requisition of the kind has been received.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Will the honourable member be pleased to say what has been the result of those visits?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: He has advised them of the steps they are to carry on in regard to improved methods of cultivation.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Has any one taken his advice and acted on it?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: I cannot say off-hand.

Agricultural conditions of the people of Shertala.

60. * **Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any attempt has been made by the Agricultural Department to improve the agricultural condition of the people of Shertala in the course of the last two years?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: Yes.

Soft wood in the Government forests.

61. * **Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Mavattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the extent of soft wood growing in the Government forests;

(*b*) whether they are exported for making tea chests;

(*c*) if so the quantity annually exported; and

(*d*) whether the research section of the University has made attempts for the manufacture of glue for making chests?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkiteswara Aiyar (*Conservator of Forests*): (*a*) Complete figures are not available.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

(*d*) No.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know the quantity extracted, in regard to the answer to part (*a*) of the question?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkiteswara Aiyar: We have been extracting, Sir, about twenty to twenty-two thousand candies every year for the last ten years.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: With reference to the answer to part (*b*) may I know whether it is exported for any other purpose?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkiteswara Aiyar: The export is mainly for packing cases.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod* cum *Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether there is any demand for tea chests from places outside the State?

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